REMARKS

Claims 1 through 26 are in the application, with Claims 1, 7, 14 and 21 having been amended. Claims 1, 7, 14 and 21 are the independent claims herein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-11, 13-18, 20-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by the Kim reference (U.S. Patent Publication 2004/0049613).

To overcome this rejection, the independent claims (claims 1, 7, 14 and 21) have each been amended to recite servicing two memory allocation requests in a single clock cycle by allocating free links in the packet memory pointed to by a first free link list and allocating free links in the packet memory pointed to by a second free link list. Support for these claim amendments is found at page 10, lines 1-6 of the specification of the present application.

In contrast to the independent claims as now amended, the process of the Kim reference only has a throughput of one packet data element for each clock cycle. In this regard the Examiner is respectfully requested to refer to paragraph 30 of the reference. Accordingly, Kim's process fails to allocate, in a single clock cycle, free memory links pointed to by a first free link list and free memory links pointed to by a second free link list, as now recited in the independent claims.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the pending rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

C O N C L U S I O N

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-3460.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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